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must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

A PROPHECY REALIZED.

It was on the morning of Saturday. January 8, 1910, that the newspapers printed that message of President Taft's on trust regulation which contained his remarkable prediction:

But such an investigation and possible proecution of corporations whose prosperity or but of millions of wage earners, em-and associated tradesmen must neceseartly tend to disturb the confidence of the business nunity, to dry up the now flowing sources of al from its places of hoarding and product It in our present prosperity that will cause suffering and strained circumstances among the innocent many for the faults of the guilty few

To prove how well grounded were the President's apprehensions, and how well Department of Justice has succeeded in translating Mr. Taft's prophecy into financial history, we print herewith a table presenting the market quotations of twenty stocks, taken without special selection, as reported on the morning of the publication of the message of January 7, 1910, together with the quotations of the same stocks yesterday morning. twenty months and some days later:

RAILROADS. January September 8, 1910. Atchison, Topeka and Sante Fé., 12214 Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, 15519

Louisville and Nashville	15744	13912
Missouri Pacific	71	353
New York Central	1241	100%
Northern Pacific		11;
Pennsylvania		119
Reading.	167	13654
Southern Pacific		10574
Union Pacific		15714
INDUSTRIAL	LM.	
Amalgamated Copper	881	4734
American Smelting	101 9	60
American Locomotive		33
General Electric		143%
Harvester		100
National Lead		4312
United States Rubber		3212
United States Steel		557
United States Steel preferred		1051-

With the exception of United States Steel preferred, all the foregoing quotations are of the common stock. The comparison exhibits a shrinkage in market value in these twenty stocks alone which may be stated roundly at \$886,000,000

Westinghouse

Mr. Taft's Inherited Crusade Against Business.

One of Mr. TAFT's most engagin qualities is his unconquerable optimism. of which his kindly and winning smile is the outward expression. In a recent address on his present tour he took occasion to express this optimism by

"The Lord is kind to children, drunken men and the United States."

This encouraging attitude, which under existing circumstances is not unworthy of Mark Tapley, is or at least has been characteristic of the average American. The growth of this country has been so rapid and bewildering, its march to higher achievement and more amazing prosperity has been so continuous and almost unchecked, that the ordinary observer finds it difficult not to accept the cheerful assumption that all policies, laws and political movements will ultimately result in greater growth and more abundant prosperity. Temporary depressions, even acute to its appointed and happy end. Aplaws are regarded as having any bindpeople as a reckless spendthrift who dissipates his resources with the confident belief that he has the purse of Fortunatus was not altogether unjust.

This accounts in some measure for Mr. TAFT's apparent attitude of indifference to the incalculable blight which the Sherman law has inflicted upon the growth of this country. While the nation has advanced despite the Sherman law, no one can possibly measure the progress that it would have made if the industrial forces of the nation had not confronted an ever increasing world competition in the shadow of an arbitrary law which offered harassing litigation and even the penitentiary as a reward for successful business endeavor.

Hitherto the average investor has con soled himself with the reflection that whatever else might result from this crusade against the natural instinct of association, intrinsic property values would be unaffected, and that the only result of a general enforcement of the takes that resulted in the return of an inclined to display his pitchfork in law would be, as we think Mr. JAMES J. HILL expressed it, that the investor would have two or more certificates of stock for one.

gration cannot be carried on without some destruction of value. The dissolution of the Tobacco Company, even before it has been completed, has been at-Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second values in the shares of stock as sold on the exchanges but by a permanent destruction of good will and earning power which has in turn lessened the value of the physical property. The President's optimism will have little convalue of their shares has been substantially lessened.

> When Mr. TAFT continued as an inherited policy the crusade against business in obedience to the mandate of Conthe inevitable results. In his message of officer and man on board was killed it January 7, 1910, the President appounce i that he proposed to enforce the Sherman law and for this purpose to enter upon a broad inquiry as to which corporations were in violation of its provisions. He would

necessarily tend to disturb the confidence of the business community, to dry up the now flow publication wish to have rejected articles returned they | ing sources of capital from its places of hoarding and produce a halt in our present prosperity that will cause suffering and strained circumstances among the innocent many for the faults of the gullty few."

> At the head of these columns will be found a statement of the values of oad common and half industrial, mostly common, as quoted on the exchanges of gave his frank and timely warning, to- including Flag Captain ADIGARD. Six gether with the quotations of the same securities as reported yesterday morning, and the resultant shrinkage.

The principal cause of this shrinkage which in these twenty stocks alone now amounts to nearly nine hundred millions of dollars, is the attempt of the President to carry out a law which he at one time regarded as needing amendment and of which his predecessor, Mr. Roose-VELT, once stated with emphasis that it "is such that the business of the country cannot be conducted without break ing it."

The President is not to be criticised for enforcing the law. Under his oath of office he has no choice. Even to avert the disastrous consequences of his destructive crusade we are not prepared to assent to the proposition that the President should take the law into his own hands and refuse to obey the will of Congress. We do, however, deprecate and lament the attitude of the President. as expressed by him in his Detroit speech, that the Sherman law represents a sane and just public policy. The very consequences which Mr. TAFT so significantly predicted as a necessary public policy, for it cannot be true that | tinued: an enlightened policy would tend

to disturb the confidence of the business ommunity, to dry up the now flowing sources of months previously we find that none of these capital from its places of hearding and produce powders were in a condition making it advisable a halt in our present prosperity that will cause suffering and strained circumstances among the least stability should have lasted at least twenty-

Governments are not instituted to produce such destructive consequences. To paraphrase the saying of the Master, letter of the Mosaic law, governments were made for the welfare of the people and the people are not made for the government, nor is their injury within its legitimate ends.

For the present and as long as we let us hope that the Lord will continue to be "kind to children, drunken men and light upon the disaster. A cartridge the United States."

Proofs of Frauds.

Governor WILSON of New Jersey continues to display in his public addresses and official letters that caution and moderation which all progressives demand in their leaders. This year he forced through the Legislature a new election law providing, among other things, that panics, are to him but the eddies of a copies of the official ballots to be used mighty stream which will surely roll at the primaries should be mailed to each voter whose name appeared on the registry lists. In the county of the first cartridge of 'B' powder before the adparently neither physical nor economic Essex, where some Democrats, and even some Republicans, are so reactionary as ing application to our nation. RUDYARD not to spend all their time swearing ent at the Garves test that this is what KIPLING'S recent characterization of our allegiance to Governor WILSON, 11,000 occurred on the Iéna, for an examinasenders. This fact moved Governor WILSON to say:

> "The return of over 11,000 official envelope addressed to voters in Essex county alone, to say nothing of the many thousands in other counties proves that frauds were perpetrated at the last lection, and presumably at the last primary.

In the period elapsing between election day of 1910 and the mailing of these voters of Essex county died. case death was a "proof of fraud."

Between election day of 1910 and the mailing of these sample ballots a number of qualified voters moved from the county. Each of these who left no address contributed "proof of fraud."

poll lists made certain errors. When the other being the senior Senator from these errors were copied on the official New Jersey, the Hon. FRANK OBADIAH envelopes there were established "proofs BRIGGS. The junior Senator from New or if one would be sufficient. of fraud."

poll lists the elections officers made cer- Mr. Garden takes his seat. Not even tain mistakes. Each one of these mis- Mr. TILLMAN of South Carolina will be official envelope became a "proof of fraud.

After the official envelopes had been addressed they were committed to the mails and the care of the post office em - to prove by the official record that Con-Recent events have shown, however, ployees. In every case in which through gress was full of farmers, and that there-

"proofs of fraud."

The Destruction of the Liberte.

The explosion which destroyed the French battleship Liberté is said to be gress he did so with no illusions as to a "total mystery." As almost every may be doubted whether the cause of the a politician. disaster will ever be definitely learned. Where are the witnesses to come from? An official inquiry is likely to be barren of results, for if there has been negligence in making inspections or if reports have significantly and prophetically added been pigeonholed there will be a desire that such inquiry and enforcement to cover up the omissions and faults of bureaucracy

Admiral REUNIER is of the opinion that there was first an explosion of "B" powder in the magazines. This ammunition was under suspicion when the Iéna blew up. In fact the belief was generally held that deflagration or combustion resulted from overheating of this powder, which after a certain time and in the natural course of things becomes aspires to be remembered as the Casawenty standard securities, half rail- dangerous. It is customary to make periodical inspections, and after a term of years to remove "B" powder from a ship's magazines. In the lens disaster the country on the day that Mr. TAFT 118 officers and men lost their lives. months earlier ADIGARD had protested the Government to the people. against having a six-year-old powder

in the magazines. His report was "held up" by the general staff of the squadron; that is to say, it never reached Paris. On the document was this note in pencil:

"Nothing to be done. From the fact that ammunition is six years old it does not follow that it should be replaced if passed satisfactory after being tested. I saw it again to-day. The responsibility of Captain A. is not concerned.

The report of Captain ADIGARD went into a pigeonhole and was soon forgotten. There were survivors who were able ten. There were survivors who were able to testify about what occurred on the lenar to testify about what occurred on the suit, but believe that no primary was ever held in Prince George's county when more votes were flared up in the after part of the ship. flared up in the after part of the ship. and then in a few moments there was a second explosion that scattered projectiles about and burst bulkheads. The editor to submit his evidence to the Displace in the 10 cm. gun magazine. No nents will no doubt argue that if there is less than 111 charges for the 12 inch guns to be a recount by the Legislature of the were "burned up" and 1,100 kilograms of black powder exploded. The original to be thrown wide open for a recount in explosion was in "decomposing smokless powder of the ether-alcohol guncotton type." but it was the black powder ignited by the "B" powder powder ignited by the "B" powder that caused the greatest havoc. "Evifeating the Minister of Marine in will still continue to feath her millions, and feed them well out of her own soil.—President TAFT. an official statement, "the powder 'B' result of his policy show beyond question of heat, and the change increases with have advanced in the last fifteen years, what that the law does not represent a sound the temperature." The statement con- a tremendous food bill the 200,000,000 will

" If we take the life of powders which were on board the lens which had been tested a few to remove them from the Iena. Those having the months, according to the

Nevertheless "B" powder must have been the first cause of the disruption of the Iena, and if Captain ADIGARD's when His mission ran counter to the protest had been heeded instead of being disregarded because in the judgment of chemists and the conclusions of a staff officer the powder was infallibly safe, the fine warship would have remained in commission and not become a target for practice after so many of her officers and men had died for their country. have too talkative an Attorney-General Experiments on a large scale at Garves with "B" powder ammunition threw was ignited near the rear end by electricity. We quote from an account of what followed:

"A sharp explosion was heard, not very loud then after about ten seconds a sound like that of high pressure steam escaping from p belier which has been damaged, increasing very rapidly and almost immediately accompanied by a great outburst of flame, through the ammunition par sage principally. Almost immediately after this ing by their black smoke that they were melinite she'ls; then for nearly two hours there were occasional explosions at varying intervals. Fourteen minutes elapsed after the setting fire to joining magazine was fired.

It was the conclusion of experts presof these communications were returned tion of her wrecked magazines showed by the Post Office Department to the that the lower part of the bulkhead separating the "B" powder from the black powder was marked with fragments of cartridges that exploded before the black powder ignited and blew down the bulkhead. All navies make a clusion that the chemists do not yet sample ballots a number of qualified thoroughly understand the decomposing In each process which makes that powder so

The New Obadiah.

There will be two Obadiahssin the United States Senate when Mr. GARD-NER of Rockland, Me., takes the oath at The elections officers in preparing the the opening of Congress in December, Jersey has plenty of assurance, but Mr. competition with OBASIAH GARDNER'S credentials from the State Grange, of which he is president.

THE SUN had occasion not long ago

that this is a mistake and that disinte- stupidity, carelessness or lack of judg- fore there was no foundation for the SCOPE OF THE SHERMAN LAW. anybody will present to me any case in ment a post office clerk or carrier failed complaint of Mr. GARDNER when he to deliver one of these letters there was was a candidate for Senator before created immediately a "proof of fraud." the Maine Legislature recently that the The county of Essex had at the tak- farmers were not represented. It is ing of the Federal census a population true that many of the farmers in Con- meaning of the substantive portions of tended not only by a great shrinkage of of 512,886, living in three cities, five gress have turned politician and no towns, six townships, seven boroughs longer live on a farm, and that others and one village. One of the cities had are only farmers because they own pas-347,469 inhabitants. Each of three bor- tures and timber or raise blooded stock. not enable the courts to carry their adverse oughs had less than 500 people. The The acreage of members of Congress is decrees into effect except by injunctions population includes farmers, factory undeniably very large. But OBADIAH workers, local trades people and profes- GARDNER is a genuine farmer and racy sional men of all kinds, and commuters, of the soil, although he has no New Eng- portions of the statute are cited as follows: solution for the holders of these stocks. The county is normally Republican and land accent. Michigan being his native who already find that the exchangeable the home of the Colby reformers. These State. In the hills back of Rockland undeniable facts are probably additional he has a productive farm and a comfortable home. He is a good judge of stock, fertilizers and the weather. He has done chores and can drive a horse and restrain such violations. Such proceedings as well as an automobile. He would may be by way of petition setting forth the case as well as an automobile. He would not have been president of the State Grange for ten years if he were not a petition and before final decree the court may real farmer. Only incidentally is he

Farmer GARDNER looks the part: that is to say he looks like an honest yeoman. With his broad, clean shaven face and air of simplicity and candor he will be accepted as a worthy representative of the agricultural interests. It will be in order when he is ushered into the Senate for the old OBADIAH to extend a cordial welcome to the young OBADIAH and see that he is protected from the wily advances of Senators who are not farmers. We venture to say that it will be the first time in the history of the Senate that it has boasted two Obadiahs.

It is clear that the Hon, JOHN A. DIX bianca of the Direct Primary agitation in this State.

We presume that nine-tenths of the patriots who forgot to go to the primary polls yesterday are this morning strong champions of the movement "to restor

If everything goes well to day Governor Balls with will call upon the Sheriff and the Secretar of State to end the General Assembly Jaccordin to custom and the session will be terminated. Hartford despatch.

What an example for the Sheriff of Albany county! The Laurel Democrat, published in the

town in Maryland where the Democratic candidate for Governor votes, offers to furnish Senator GORMAN with the names of persons who bought votes in Laurel and the names of the corrupted. The editor savs:

than in the last primary. What will be done

Mr. GORMAN has advised the obliging first explosion, it was established, took trict Attorney. The candidate's oppovote of Baltimore county the door ought mary is charged; as in Prince George, for instance.

If prices of foodstuffs continue to go up is apt to disintegrate under the action during the next thirty-nine years as they have to pay in 1950.

> Turkey seems to be in the midst of another "back to Asia" movement

For political lexicographers in Jersey we make the following suggestion: "To of any Legislature or executive in procurng any enactment which aims at increasing public participation in primary elections by multiplying the obstacles to such participation.

Irish Dramatists. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Evidently "Greek" correspondent is not in the habit of reading the English reviews. If he were he would know that such critical authorities as the Speciator and the Saturday Review have pronounced Synge as the most original voice in drama since Shakespeare. Of course he did not write much, for alas, he died young; but an author should be judged by the quality and not the

dramatic genius should come out of Ireland out I may inform him that that country (not withstanding that there are places in it known by such names as Skibbercen) has produced some of the most illustrious dramatists of the English speaking world, for instance Goldsmith. NEW YORK, September 26.

From the London Globe.

According to statistics recently published the umber of liliterate recruits in the French army has attained the astounding total of 14,000. other hand the German newspapers many they have only forty-six liliterates; that is ecruits who can neither read nor write. ears ago the number of litterates in the German rmy was 218. Going back another decade the The French journal from which re take the foregoing further states that the percentage of illiterates in the English armyshowed 1 per cent .: France, 3.5 per cent .: Austria. 22 per cent.; Italy, 31 per cent., and Russia 62

The National Tree of China.

From the Scientific American. The tung, or wood oll tree, is worthly named pearance, with bears a fruit resembling a shell bark blokery nut practice of keeping powders similar to three large as a small crange. Each nut contains "B" for several years, with regular innuts. The oil is pressed from these seeds, and spections, and it is therefore a fair con- the refuse is used as a fertilizer. The oil is used principally for polishing woodwork and dressing leather. Considerable quantities are exported. The wood of the tung tree is used for making musical instruments, fine boxes and the frame roris of small houses. It is believed that tree might flourish in warmer parts of the United States.

A Bar Twenty-six Miles Long

Centralia correspondence St. Paul Pioneer Press Inquiries were made of the auditor for Lewis Navigation Company regarding the price of a license permitting it to sell liquor on its trains' form opinions upon the whole subject. I and the question arose as to whether the railroad venture, without at present submitting any must take out a separate license for each train argument in favor of my views. Auditor Swofford ruled that the rallroad would In the transcription of the names and addresses of electors of 1910 from the to call himself the farmer Senator after pany's line across the county. This would allow the railroad the right to sell liquor on any part

> A Poet's Search for Knowledge TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sir: What I "musty ale"? Where did the term originate and how? I suppose I ought to know, but I don't. Is it possible that somebody can say where it may be procured and under what condition

HAROLD DOBBLER. STATEN ISLAND, September 26.

and what hour it is best eaten

Does It Authorize the Courts to Order

the Separation of Combinations? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the midst of discussions concerning the true the Sherman law, may I call attention that portion of the act which provides the remedies available under its provisions? which may prohibit the corporations from committing any acts in restraint of trade

To make this point clear the executive The several circuit courts of the United States hereby invested with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of this act, and it shall be the duty of the several District Attorney under the direction of the Attorney-General, and praying that such violation shaff be enloined or otherwise prohibited. Pending such at any time make such temporary restraining order or prohibition as shall be deemed just in What is the natural deduction from the

of the power which Congress designed to confide to the courts, in case they decided that any combination existed in violation of this enactment? Considering the evil intended to be reached it is apparent from the purport of the above language that all the purposes of the law would be subserved by injunctions restraining any combination from doing any act in restraint of trade. If the existing combinations which were enjoined proceeded to commit such acts of restraint, the usual penalties for violations of judicial decrees could be applied In answer to any arguments that may be adduced to show that such an injunctive would not be adequate it is sufcient to cite the statute and to confirm that citation in the light of the principle

that when a new offence is created by stat-ute, and the particular femedy is given in the same statute, the action of the courts Edmunds into the exact shape in which is s confined to that specific remedy stricter application of this fundamental rule of construction, inasmuch as it cannot e presumed that Congress intended to disintegrate titles which had been created unier State laws. It is not a question whether Congress could not, in furtherance of inter tate commerce, have swept away organizations which the States had authorized The contention is simply that Congress has ot done so by the remedial measures which t has provided in the Sherman law. parently it deemed that the stoppage of all issuance of decrees would be sufficient protection for the integrity of commerce among

It may be urged that these objectionable of restraining such commerce, and that therefore no effective relief can be had against them except by their disintegration This is not a correct statement of fact or deduction. It may well be that a combination which was formed by the most illegitimate processes would yield to the mandate of an injunction and cease the doing of any ict which the Sherman law, however construed, can be held to antagonize. ever may be desired in respect to the extremeness of remedies, we must always revert to the limitations of remedy which the authors of the law evidently had in nind. It would certainly have surprised Senators Sherman and Hoar and their compeers to learn that they had provided for hacking titles to pieces.

It is true that in the Northern Securities ase the Supreme Court did order the redelivery of the stocks of the constituent but that case is not a precedent for the proceedings now pending against the Standard and Tobacco cominations. In the Northern Securities case there was but one substantive transaction which the constituent stocks were placed in the hands of the holding company; and the restraint of commerce which followed was identical with that simple act of hold. ing. But in the more recent cases we are lealing with the continuous conduct of a business held to be in restraint of interstate commerce. The measure of relief provided

by the Sherman enactment, injunction against any acts of restraint, seemed to the framers of this initial Egislation adequate to reach the alleged evil. Particularly should this be deemed to be the limit of it is a penal and criminal statute indulge the presumption that whatever defendant, individual or corporate, was ento restrain Federal commerce would obey such direction or incur the penalties of

Indeed this notion of disbanding and disrupting organizations in possession of property grows out of a conception which has been grafted upon the Sherman law, the idea that personalities of an individual or corporate character must be deprived potentiality of restraining commerce The reasoning has been in a circle. The combinations, say the courts, must be arrested because they are potential restrainers of commerce, and as such arrest by inunction may not be effectual to paralyze that potentiality the courts should break them up into competing entities. By this process have we not passed far beyond the rescriptions of the law as it is written in the United States statutes, prescription which authorize the courts to enjoin corporations from doing the prohibited acts out which do not authorize the courts to place it beyond the power of corporations to do those acts by the assumed process of

egal decapitation? EDWARD L. ANDREWS. NEW YORK, September 26.

Six Interesting Conclusions Reached by a Diligent Student of the Act.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-Sir: I have ist been reading the critical editorial artile of to-day entitled "Business and the I suppose I have read more widely and written more extensively relevant to the Sherman law than any other man; and certainly I am entirely familiar with all that upreme Court or any other Federal court has ever published upon that subject, and also with all the views which President Taft published when he was a Judge and the national tree of China. It is stately in another and the spreading branches, affording a fine shade. It published statements of numerous lawyers. those which he has published since that such as Attorney-General Wickersham, Mr Hornblower, Mr. Morawetz, and every other lawyer whose writings I could get hold of, and I have read many scores of able ar cles in newspapers published in differen parts of the United States. Moreover have conducted an extensive correspondence relevant to the Sherman law many men who are now in public office, and, as may perhaps be remembered. I am the author of the "History of the Sherman Law," which book is the only one ever printed which purports to present a thorough exposition of the subject as that subject was developed up to the time that book was pub lished a few months ago.

Thus fitted, at least to some extent, to form opinions upon the whole subject, I argument in favor of my views, to state them succinctly as follows The first section of the Sherman lay

prohibits restraint of interstate or international trade or commerce, but it does not expressly prohibit restraint of competition and it does not impliedly prohibit restraint of competition, except where restraint of competition results in restraint of trade or commerce, which is far from always being the case. For example, section 1 of the Sherman law does not prohibit the forma tion of partnerships or corporations or the consolidation of corporations, or the sale of the good will of any business coupled with a contract to refrain from competing with the business thus sold. In short if

which a combination of men or corporation operates fairly and ethically I will undertake to show that that corporation does not violate the Sherman law, and back up my

showing by statements and arguments which nobody can overthrow. 2. Section 2 of the Sherman law, in prohibiting monopolizing and attempts to mittee of the election of seven additional monopolize, is not violated by any person or corporation which does not work by the E. Burton, Ph. D., professor of English aid of impediments placed in the paths of literature at the University of Minnesota competitors, even if that person or corpo- Nathaniel Butler, LL. D., professor of ration does acquire by means of superior skill or superior facilities more than half interstate or international commerce.

difference between that limitation which Chief Justice White sought to insert in the Sherman law by means of the word "unreasonable" in his dissenting opinion in the Trans-Missouri case in 1897 and the limitation which he sought to introduce into that statute by the word "undue" in his obiter dicta in 1911 in the Standard Oil case and the American Tobacco case Those words, if they had been really inserted in the statute, would introduce confusion instead of clarification. But the attempt of Chief Justice White to insert in the Simplified Spelling Board marks the the word "undue" into the statute by his progress which the cause of simpling obiter dicta in the Standard Oil case and spelling has made in the educational American Tobacco case was no more effective than his attempt to insert the word members sixteen university professors three university presidents (two retired) effective than his attempt to insert the word clauses in reference to the extent senting opinion in the Trans-Missouri case, for obiter dicta are like dissenting opinions

in having no binding force on anybody. 4. President Taft was not speaking accu-rately when he said in his recent Detroit speech that the decisions of the Supreme American Tobacco case mean "that find that any contract made for the purpose of excluding competition, controllin prices or of maintaining a monopoly in part or in whole is contrary to the statute. for nobody can deduce from either of those decisions the proposition that every comhination which "excludes competition" violates the Sherman law.

s confined to that specific reinedy. No was enacted by countries unanimously ap-federal enactment ever demanded the into that shape it was unanimously ap-stricter application of this fundamental proved by the nine members of the Senate was enacted by Congress; and being put proved by the nine members of the Senate the Supreme Court, with Charles F. Mur-Judiciary Committee in 1890 and by every phy, Jr., a nephew of Charles F. Murphy. and by every Senator except Senator Blodgett of New Jersey. In the eye of the law of construction of statutes it is the clearest and most complete and accurate of all the multitudineus statutes which I during my long life as a lawyer and law author ever read. The "confusion worse con-founded" which has been made to surround that statute for more than twenty-one years acts in restraint of trade which any de-fendant might attempt to commit after the otherwise than this, it has been artificially violators of the statute and by numerous out our plans, but in a few weeks we statesmen and other politicians who wanted to confuse the matter in order that they might avoid displeasing the people at the most prominent of the incorporators. ombinations exist solely for the purpose might avoid displeasing the people at the restraining such commerce, and that violators of the law, and by able editors of newspapers who discussed the matter in good faith but without time enough to separate larger the chaff of the lawyers and statesmen from the wheat of the statute itself.

6. Any really able lawyer who will imparlaw and then impartially study all of the 100 decisions which have been rendered by the courts relevant to that law can reliably advise any person or corporation whether the business in which that person or corporation is engaged or concerned does or does advice can be given by any lawyer whose mind is confused and distorted by hundreds of unfounded and conflicting statements which can be collected out of speeches of lawyers or statesmen

ALBERT H. WALKER. NEW YORK, September 26.

TAXICAB MYSTERIES. Why Should Not New York Have Reason.

able Fares? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The head of one of our traction systems recently returned from Europe, and in commenting upon the lack of crowding in the Paris subway system remarked that it was due taxicabs for short distances in preference

seem to indicate a lack of thrift upon the enbush said it was impossible for him would be immediately acquitted. perfectly feasible for an economically inits framers clearly intended to clined person to use taxicabs in any part of England, France or Germany, a conciujoined from further combining or conspiring after comparing the tariffs with those in sion to which I think any one will come use in this country. In London, for instance, two persons can

in a clean, well kept taxicab for 18 cents for the first mile, the minimum charge, and four cents for each additional quarter mile thereafter. The vehicles accomme date four persons, and 12 cents is charged for each additional passenger, irrespective of the distance travelled. A trunk, value

for each additional passenger, irrespective of the distance travelled. A trunk, valise or package, if carried outside, costs four cents, and waiting time is charged for on the basis of ten minutes being the equivalent of one mile, or 16 cents. In Paris the rates are slightly cheaper.

There may be some reason of which I know nothing for the fact that in New York city we are compelled to pay for any number of passengers not exceeding four 50 cents for the first half mile and 10 cents for each additional quarter mile thereafter, with a charge of 20 cents. I think, for packages carried outside. Gasolene ought not to be any dearer if as dear in this country as abroad. The orikinal cost of the taxicab can hardly be so much higher in this country as to justify the difference, and I should be interested in knowing whether the chauffeurs in New York are so much better paid as to account for it.

While it may be true that geographically the problem in this city differs from that in London, for instance, and that taxis starting here from a centre of activity would, after depositing their passengers, fail to obtain a return fare, these facts can hardly account for the difference. The maximum represents the actual situation, would be the charging of twice the London tariff, all excesses beyond that, must represent an increase in cost of operation or in profits. It would be interesting if some of THE SUN's readers better equipped than I am would shed some light on this question, and I may add that if taxicabs in New York could be obtained on a reasonable basis their use would be greatly extended, and many who now find it impracticable to use these vehicles for short distances would sindly ride in them in profigence to crowding in cars.

It is interesting to note that the operating companies abroad are apparently making money at the present rates, and within the past two months the London City Council nas refused to permit any increase in the tariffs on the ground that the profits at the present time are ample.

S. H. Wolfe. NEW YORK, September 23.

Among the Immortals.

To THE PDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Seventy ears ago the roads in Maine were if possible worse than now and there was a line of stage worse than now and there was a line of stage coaches running northward from Portland owned and operated by the firm of Hall & Bumpas. I have been hauled and bumped on that line, AMESBURY, Mass., September 26. S. T. P.

A Bewildered Protest. I'm weary of the efforts made Through literary quackery To institute comparisons

Likewise I strongly deprecate The various forms of trickery Employed in the comparisons Of Thackens unto Dickeray.

Of Dickens unto Thackeray

I grieve because the murky look Of the horizon blackens With all this smoke at Of Talckeray and Dackens.

The further the discussion goes The more it tires and sickens
Those who don't care a tinker's dam
For Dackeray or Thickens.

I'll hie me down to Coney Isle. Get beery if not liquory And hear no more for

PEDAGOGS AND CATALOGS.

Practis of Som Colleges Not Specifically Mentlond.

That Mr. Carnegie's Simplified Spelling Board is still in existence is proved by the announcement of the executive commembers of the board. They are Richard education at the University of Chicago George O. Crume, A. M., professor of Germanic philology at Northwestern University; John R. Kirk, Lt. I., president of the Missouri State Normal School Charles McKenny, A. M., president of the Wisconsin State Normal School: Z. X. Snyder, Ph. D., president of the Colorado State Normal School; David M. Soloan, LLL D., principal of the Provincial Normal

College, Truro N. S.

The executive committee has this to say about the progress of spelling movement since it was last heard from

The board now includes among its forty-five six presidents of normal schools and to do these and other educators approve the but the simplified spellings are now officially used in the catalogs, circulars and correspondence of som of the institutions menlond and in the normal schools are in regular use by most of the students

RESPIRATION, NOT INSPIRATION It Involves Expiration Also-Just a Societf for Promoting the Breath of Life.

The incorporators of the United States Humane Society, whose professed object is to give inspiration to whoever is in need of it on land or sea, were not quite ready yesterday to announce complete plans for their work. The new society was incorporated only last Monday in as one of the organizers.

A Sun reporter who went looking for the new society yesterday to get all the facts of its contemplated campaign for more inspiration found that its habitat at present is the office of Mr. Murphy, who is an insurance broker at 76 Wiftiam street. Mr. Murphy said that he was not primed on all the facts, but would put the reporter in touch with a man who was. The man turned out to be a clerk in Mr. Murphy's office, who said:

We are not prepared just now to giv All I can say is that the society intends to establish a lot of life saving stations just like the United States Volunteer Life Saving Association and similar organizations. Of course there are no there are not

organizations. Of course there are not enough of these societies, else we would not have so many lives lost by drowning.

"But what about supplying inspiration on demand, as stated in the charter?" asked the reporter.

"Oh, we simply meant artificial respiration by that—what all life savers use, you know."

The secretary didn't explain how in-spiration came to be used instead of respiration, and the reporter didn't ask

PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD UNFAIR So Says Attorney Quackenbush of the Elevated System.

The Public Service Commission held its first hearing yesterday on the proposal to order the Interborough company to lengthen the platforms of the elevated stations, but all that came out of it was quarrel between the commission and James L. Quackenbush, counsel for the company. Mr. Quackenbush said that he was not ready to go ahead with th hearing. When it was suggested that an adjournment should be taken until to the fact that many of the people used Friday Mr. Quackenbush objected to this as not giving him sufficient time to prepare facts showing that there was no Judged by American standards this would need for the larger platforms. Mr. Quack-

to have these facts ready by Friday "Well, if you don't put in any evidence by then," said Commissioner Eastis, "the commission will go ahead and adopt an order, because it is the purpose of the board to push this improvement along as speedily as possible."

Mr. Quackenbush retorted that aithough the commission was supposed to be acting in a judicial capacity the members had apparently determined the matter before-hand. He added, "We expect to put in important evidence, facts that would have weight with unprejudiced minds, and we have not been without hope that

we might convince you of the justness of our opposition."

Commissioner Eustis replied that the company had had ample time to prepare It was determined that no fur-

the company.

HONORS FOR POLICEMEN. Life Saving Benevolent Association to

her delay than Friday should be allowed

Decorate Twenty-one Men. W. Irving Coine, vice-president of th ife Saving Benevolent Association C New York, sent to Police Commissioner Waldo yesterday to be presented to policemen for saving persons from drown ing during the past year two gold and nineteen bronze metal pins. Each pin carries with it a present of \$25 in gold

Washington I. Hegeman of the far Rockaway station and Dennis O'Meara of the Greenwich street station receive the gold pins and \$25 Bronze pins and the cash presents go

to Gustave Gelderman of the harbon squad, Capt. Edward J. Bourke of the Brooklyn Bridge squad, Martin E. Zeidler of the Bushwick avenue station, James M. Wheelwright of the Far Rockaway station. John S. E. McCaughan of the Prespe Park station, James C. Haggerty of the Union Market station, Henry G. Hoffman of Stapleton, Staten Island, Samuel Rosenfeld of the Bushwick avenue station, James Geoghegan of East 194th street sortion, Thomas A. Coughlin of the Madiscu street station, Martin A. Coulin of the Oak street station, Arthur W. Decoc of the Rapelyea street station, William P. Beecher of the traffic squad, William T. Davis of the Central Office squad, John W. Creamer of the Concy Leland stations. W. Creamer of the Coney Island station Daniel J. O'Leary of the Old Slip station Edward A. Bracken of the traffic squad.
Edward A. Conrad of the West 125th
street station and Joseph C. Coffey of
the Bath Beach station.
Commissioner Waldo will present the

pins and the money to the men WANT TO DRIVE BIRDS AWAY. Montelair Residents Appeal to Authori

ties to Lessen Noise of Starlings. MONTCLAIR, N. J., Sept. 26. Mr Amory H. Bradford, Dr. Stella Bradford and Miss Mary K. Waring are among he residents of the Crescent who in formal appeal to the Montclair autho ies have asked that some action be taken ties have asked that some action be thick to drive away the thousands of grackles and starlings that have been receiving in the trees in front of their homes. It was in the Crescent that a town employee shot some of the birds on August 17 last and was fined \$100 for killing protected birds. The town authorities will confer with the State Game and Fish Counsission to see if some means cannot be devised to drive the birds away. vised to drive the birds away.